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Wellesley College News

WELLESLEY, MASS., SEPTEMBER 9, 1943

SEP 11 1943

Poets Readings Begin October 4: Tristram Coffin First Speaker

Robert P. Tristram Coffin will give the first Wellesley College Poet's Reading on October 4. In addition to his recognition as Pulitzer Prize winner in 1936 for his poem *Strange Holiness*, Mr. Coffin has received numerous other awards for both his poems and biographies. Former chairman of the English Department at Wells College, he is credited with founding the idea of honors work in English Literature in this country. Mr. Coffin was the Katherine Lee Bates poet at Wellesley College in 1927, 1931, and 1935.

Since Mr. Tristram Coffin is a native of Maine and graduate of Bowdoin, it is not surprising that most of his poetry deals with Maine.

Following Mr. Tristram Coffin in the poets series will be Mr. Robert Hillyer, now Professor of Poetry at Harvard University. Mr. Hillyer received a Pulitzer Prize, in 1934. During his undergraduate days at Harvard, Mr. Hillyer was included in the group of young poets in whom Amy Lowell showed a particular interest.

This is approximately the twentieth year of Poet's readings at Wellesley, although a great deal of interest was shown in the occasional readings given during the last war. Katherine Lee Bates was presented with a special gift fund for the purpose of providing poet's readings by Miss Eunice Smith '98, a student of Miss Bates. At first the fund was used solely for the encouragement of younger poets, but gradually a wider selection of authors has been included.

Navy To Flavor 1944's Legenda

1944's Legenda, introducing Wellesley to the Navy and perpetuating this year of overwhelming change, will arrive April 15, a full month and a half earlier than last year. Handicapped by this telescoped year, less money, less paper and more work and more distraction, Editor-in-Chief, Stephanie Jones and Isabella Byrne, Business Manager are nevertheless determined to streamline and perfect the yearbook.

Wellesley girls may order *Legenda* from their House Representatives during the period from September 11 through 21. Barbara Demarest '44 is in charge of subscriptions. Wellesley men will also have an opportunity to buy *Legenda* somewhat later. Advertising Manager Marty Nelson '44 and her committee have already begun to collect and lay out the ads.

The editors, this year, stress the fact that *Legenda* is a book for the whole college, rather than just a memorial to the Seniors. Members of all classes may participate in the actual assembling of the book by signing up on their class boards. And all students are represented in the book in their class, their house and their organizations.

The Editors wish to assure everybody that Wellesley's turning Co-ed and *Legenda* is well aware of it.

SOCIETY APPLICATIONS
For Membership
Due at 4:30 P.M.
Monday, September 13

College To Go All Out In Pushing Bond Sales As National Drive Opens

To raise 15 billion dollars, it would be necessary to sell 200 million $100 Bonds (at the subscription price of $75). Therefore, 2½ million salesmen, making up a great patriotic civilian army, are swinging into action today for the greatest financing job ever attempted, the Third War Loan Drive.

With the new War Activities representatives leading the campaign, Wellesley will get into the nationwide swing today, as the Third War Loan Drive gets under way. The War Bonds and Stamps booth near the El table is prepared to take care of record sales. And the race is on between the dormitories to see which will buy the most Bonds and Stamps!

During the next three weeks, every American who can possibly afford it is urged to buy at least one $100 Bond *over and above* what he has already bought or is buying through payroll savings or other plans. This is a special drive, intended to accomplish a special purpose, the raising of a large *additional* sum of money.

Modern total war is costly because it is world-wide and because it is a war of machines, as well as men. If some of the costs of war are translated into the bonds that would be required to pay for them, the results are astounding:

5,000 people would have to buy $100 War Bonds to pay for the gasoline used on the 1,000 Flying Fortress' raid over the Rhineland 180 people would have to buy one $100 Bond each to finance a single broadside from the 16-inch guns of one of our giant battleships. 2 people buying $100 Bonds wouldn't quite pay for the equipment of a single soldier, the cost of which is $154.95. It would take more than 33,300 people buying $100 War Bonds to meet the $2,500,000 cost of equipping a single division, and we are creating divisions at the rate of one a day. One $100 Bond purchase would keep a carrier-based Navy plane in the air just a little more than two and one-quarter hours . . . if spent on 26 life preservers, it might save as many lives . . . or if used to buy .50 caliber armor-piercing bullets, it would pay for 204 rounds.

Financing the war is the biggest financial task ever attempted in history. The $18½ billion which we spent on the last war would cover less than 2 1-2 months of this one. The War Department appropriation for the fiscal year 1943 alone was more than our total Government appropriations between 1789 and 1919.

A little more than one-third of the Government expenditures will be covered by taxation. The remainder must be raised by borrowing. It is essential that as large a sum as possible be secured from individuals, since it is necessary not only to pay for the war, but also to insure economic stability by helping to hold down prices. If the people of the United States put their dangerous inflationary dollars in War Bonds, they will help to insure a sound stable America for the peace to come.

Christmas Gifts to members of the Armed Forces serving overseas MUST be mailed between September 15 and October 15!
Packages mailed after this date will not be accepted for overseas shipment. Packages for the Army overseas *cannot* be insured. Packages for the Navy overseas can be insured.

Forum Groups Plan For War, Post-War Situation

Discussion Topics Stress Present Day Problems

With a grasp of the present and an eye to the future, Forum is vigorously getting under way. This year the various committees are looking to the post-war world. They are going to stress action now, which will have a direct bearing on the kind of world they want to see when the fighting is done.

Envisioning an added strength of labor politically after the war, the Social Action group is taking steps to acquaint its members with labor unions and how they work. Plans are being made with a Boston union to permit the girls to work for the union as apprentices. The apprentices will not be committing themselves politically, but will be educating themselves for active citizenship.

Because of the importance of present legislation in determining post-war policy, the Social Action group is also organizing committees of correspondence. The members will find out who their Congressmen are and will write to them when important bills are coming up.

"Reconstruction" will be the group on International Affairs' topic of discussion. They will collaborate with the Faculty Committee on Post-War Reconstruction in pooling ideas and plans.

The Domestic Affairs group will emphasize internal reconstruction socially and economically. They will give special attention to the racial problem.

Since Forum is sponsoring the season's lectures with the War Activities Committee, the house representatives will lead their respective houses before each lecture in a discussion of the country or problem involved.

The Debate group, which still stands undefeated, will debate more extensively with other colleges. It is rumored that a debate with a trade union is in the offing.

Post-War Reconstruction In Europe and America Subject of Lectures

Both Forum and the War Activities Committee will sponsor a new series of lectures this year. During the first semester they will stress post-war reconstruction in the small countries of Europe. Post-war reconstruction in the United States will be emphasized during the second semester.

If he is not called back to Europe, Vladimir Hurban, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Czechoslovakia, to the United States and Cuba, will be the first speaker. Mr. Hurban's diplomatic career has taken him to Sweden, Norway, and Lithuania. He will address the college Thursday, September 23.

A panel discussion on the Balkans is being planned between Kustem Vambery of the Committee for a Democratic Hungary and Charles Davila, ex-Roumanian Ambassador and former Honorary Chairman of the National Council of Roumanian Organizations in the United States of America. The discussion will take place September 30.

Haakon Lie, Norwegian labor leader, will speak on Scandinavia October 7. The next lecturer will be Pierre de Lanux, who will discuss France. The series will conclude with a summary speaker November 21.

NEWS TRYOUTS
Monday, September 13
4:30 P.M.
124 Founders

'47 Smokes in Vil Rooms First Time in History

For the first time in the history of Wellesley College, Freshmen are permitted to smoke in their rooms. While the Freshmen rejoice and the Upper-classmen bewail the fact that they were born a year or two or three too soon, the college is warned that each student's cooperation is required if the new rules are to continue. Every possible precaution must be taken, to keep the new privilege from becoming a hazard.

At the Senate meeting August 31, the Senate voted to accept the following restatement on page 11 of the 1943-44 Gray Book. V A shall read,

"Smoking is permitted in students' rooms in all houses only when these rooms are equipped with at least two fireproof ashtrays and a metal wastebasket. There shall be fire inspection at regular intervals in every house."

B shall read,

"Smoking is permitted in the living rooms of all houses after dinner; and at other times at the discretion of the Head of House."

Service Fund Aim is $13,000 In Fall Drive

$13,000 is Wellesley's goal in the Service Fund drive which starts September 27 and will continue until October 2. The committees have been announced and are:

Senior Chairman, Elsie Pavitt '44; Junior Chairman, Alice Meeker '45; Head Canvasser, Mary Louise Fast '44; Secretary, Susan Finke '46; Chairman of World Service Committee, Nancy Parker '44; Members of World Service Committee, Jane Herbert '44, Mary Andrews '44, Rachel Hall '45, Louisa Hagner '45, Patricia Brown '46, Marion Campbell '46, Margaret Howe '47, Jean Philbrick '47; Chairman of Community Service Commitee, Elizabeth Lindh '44; Members of Community Service Committee, Mary Glaze '44, Nancy Jane Day '44, Liz Chalmers '45, Betty Apollonio '45, Rosalie Bacon '46, Pat Smith '46, Sigrid Robinson '47, Joan Brailey '47; Chairman of Education Committee, Jane Tuttle '44, Members of Education Committee, Jananne Morse '44, Elaine White '45, Frances Capron '45, Betty Larson '46, Marian Miller '46, Betty Crew '47, Betty Wheat '47; Chairman of Publicity Committee, Alice Meeker '45; Members of Publicity Committee, Dickie Bird '44, Libby Chapin '45, Margaret Cobey '44, Anne Demarest '46, Pat Griesemer '45, Mary Lee '46, Janice Russell '45, Peggy Wessells '46; Sunday Chapel Collector, Martha Grace Ellis '45.

If You Worked On A Farm Last Summer
See
Miss Elisabeth A. Curtiss

Revolution In AKX- New Theme, Contemporary American Culture

by Mary Alice Cullen '46

"It's absolutely revolutionary. No one knows anything about it yet!" and AKX's president, Lucille Maspero '44 beamed with an enthusiastic gleam in her eye, as did all the AKXers sitting 'round—and here is the revolution. AKX is adopting an entirely new theme: American culture—the whole tremendous topic! Each year will concentrate on a different period, beginning this year with Contemporary American Culture.

Odd part, no one particularly thought up this change from the traditional Greek ideal of classical beauty and truth to the ideal of beauty and truth as found in America. It was one of those things that for years has been trying to happen, and this year it did.

The old order just changed. Way back in the beginning of 1892 when AKX, the youngest society, came into being with the Greek ideal, a large percentage of Wellesleyites majored in Greek and Latin. AKX gave plays in Greek, and long pledge-dinner speeches in Latin. "But," Anne Johnson, secretary, smiled seriously, "now most of us don't know Greek. In the society we have to start learning everything from the beginning and in one or two years. You just can't pass on the glory and wonder of Greek tradition in society Sunday sessions."

"Anyway, we feel that America is very important, in the world, and to us, and we know little about its culture." AKX seniors have sat in art classes and literature classes and been disappointed by the lack of emphasis on America and American ways." So this theme of American Culture just grew.

"And a very important item," emphasized Lucy, "is our Red Cross work. We want to do something for the war, so we are planning to work with the American Red Cross in Boston."

While AKX is thrilled by its new theme, it is also head over heels in love with the Shakespeare society. Shakespeare has invited and welcomed AKX to a fifty, fifty share in its house, and is giving them the second floor.

"Say something extra special about Shakespeare," Lucy asked, all gratitude.

As to the "Well to be," was AKX surprised? "Well, rather, I received a letter . . ." AKX's house was chosen because it is large, has a parking space, and good floors. (Purely incidentally, the house was just redecorated last spring.) The society banner, painted by a member, and the official relief will remain in the new "Well."

"AKX-DSC." Sounds fine. For AKX is becoming adept in rallying to Wellesley's need. After the 1914 fire, its house was used as a psychology lab for ten years. That was in the days when Dower was a barn, with the AKX house perched up on the hill nearby. This first house was built in the genuine Greek style, complete with an atrium ("rumored as leaky"), a glass skylight, and garlands of green leaves in Greek chains ("lovely, but removed because they collected dust"). Those were the times when, as Miss Risley, Head of House at Munger and an AKX alumnae, put it, "the pledges were taken through a course of sprouts." She herself was sent trembling to South Station to meet whoever wore such and such a flower, and forbidden to speak during the meeting. The particular flower appeared on an unknown gentleman, who grinned

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 4)

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Wellesley Dogma

We wonder, after all the new changes have taken place, why Wellesley is so dogmatic about certain of its requirements. We wonder why the faculty does not modernize the academic as well as the non-academic life.

The reading test in a modern language has been given here at college since time immemorial. In the Freshman handbook, the new class is warned, before it enters Wellesley's portals, of this requirement for graduation along with the other required courses. Even when compared to the other mandatory subjects, rules, and qualifications, the reading test just simply does not make sense. We would have no objection if the test had some kind of an alternative within the college curriculum; i.e., if an entering Freshman had her choice of either passing the test or taking a year or two years of the language in question. As the situation now stands, however, all students must pass the reading test in order to graduate. This does not take into account any sort of past history. The fact that a girl has had a year of college French makes no difference; she must still pass the test.

There are many points in opposition to this argument. Many student and faculty members claim that the tests are so easy that anyone can pass them—eventually. But, for some people, the tests are not easy, especially after they have been worried over them and crammed for them not only during Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior years, but also four or five times during the Senior year. Last year one Senior, whose marks were good, failed the reading test and did not graduate. Yet she had tutored in the language, and studied it. She also passed her general examination—but there was no diploma for her, no degree from Wellesley because she could not translate a particular passage into English. This, as anyone can see, is not even logical. Certainly any girl (and there have been many others, in past years) who can pass a general, to say nothing of going to Wellesley for four years, and studying a language while she is here, deserves a degree. In our opinion, the examination to test the reading knowledge in a foreign language is as foolish a requirement for graduation as was the demand that each graduate be able to swim.

It is not our idea to abolish the reading test altogether. We think, too, that in a liberal arts college, a knowledge of a language other than English is important, if not essential. But we do not think that the foreign language reading test is a just measurement of this knowledge.

Heads Of Work

No group at Wellesley is contributing more this fall to the comfort and efficiency of everyday routine than the group of undergraduates acting as Heads of Work in the Halls of Residence of the college.

Little glamor attaches to the routine work of running a household. Normally we have gone to our meals and taken our phone calls with no thought of the system which made our well-ordered living possible. This fall we have all learned at first hand that such a system does not organize itself.

The responsibility of organizing "student-power" to supplement unavoidably smaller staffs has been assumed, under the guidance of the Heads of Houses and House Presidents, by a Head of Work in each house, with a Head of Dining-room and a Head of Bells working under her. With a larger college than ever before living in fewer houses, the difficulties of such a task are multiplied.

Executive ability and a willingness to work long and hard are the least of the qualities manifest in the new student officers. They must—and do—cooperate with their Heads of House, with the domestic staffs, and with their fellow-students in working out daily plans. Making out one schedule for each necessary activity has been not an end, but a beginning. A constant process of revision alone can achieve the good coordination and the general satisfaction essential for the smooth functioning of the houses.

We have grown beyond the stage of taking personal convenience for granted; and we understand our debt to the Heads of Work and to their assistants. The gratitude of the college is theirs.

The Home Front

Without question, this year more than any other affords the college student an opportunity to share in some war activity outside the college. Here at Wellesley seclusion from happenings outside our walls is no longer the rule.

Acutely there is need for girl club leaders and hospital workers in Boston and vicinity. Reports from the agencies are urgent and demanding . . . "any number of volunteers could be used." . . . "any help given us in these days would be appreciated" . . . "Boston children should and can have the opportunities that all children deserve—if you will give us your support." . . . "no special skills are needed" . . . "working with us will prove beneficial both to Wellesley girls and to the children that come to our agency." It can not be denied that this is a war activity which is in desperate need to carry out its programs.

It is impossible, true, to work in a factory by night and attend classes by day in order to fulfill any demands that a war world could make upon an individual, but such a rigorous schedule as this is not called for in social service volunteer work. One morning, afternoon, or evening is the most that is expected of any one individual. It is work, too, for the most part with children—work that is interesting, never strenuous nor boring. By working with children or in coordination with a hospital routine, the individual obtains an award of a keen sense of personal service and achievement.

Because of the war, children from the nursery age onward are sorely lacking in opportunities to do something with their energies and enthusiasms. So many homes have been touched by the entrance of the mother into defense work that the child is left to his own devices. Then, too, the shortage of volunteer and trained club and recreation leaders is great. These children need the supervised direction that a college girl is capable of giving and which, though it costs her little, affords much to the child. Wellesley students are urged to think before they carelessly say, "I have no time." Serving in this war is by no means limited to the armed forces.

POME

by S. J. M.

How does the little Wellesley girl
Improve her inner soul?
(Unlike the constant giddy whirl
The deb has as her goal).

She diligently loves her books
And culture cultivates
(But also cultivates her looks
When she goes out on dates).

Free Press

All contributions for this column must be signed with the full name of the author. Initials or numerals will be used if the writer so desires.

The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for statements in this column.

Contributions should be in the hands of the Editors by 11 a. m. on Monday. Owing to space limitations, letters should be limited to 200 words.

To the Editor:

The Trustees of Hathaway House, when they met in the late spring to consider the matter of Patronage Rebates, realized that they were at the close of one of the most discouraging years that the bookshop had experienced since the black years of the great depression. From the 19th of December to the 2nd of March there was no student business. Indeed, there was very little business of any kind. The fuel shortage hit the bookshop, and there were days when we had no heat, and consequently, no customers. The gasoline shortage kept at home many of the people from nearby towns who in other years had been among our best book buyers.

Some of the Trustees, studying our financial sheet, thought we ought to omit the Rebate altogether. Others felt that we might stretch a point and offer a token Rebate. Three per cent would not mean much to the individual members, but it would at least indicate our desire to reward in some way the members who have done their book buying at Hathaway House, and had taken the trouble to give their membership numbers at the cashier's desk. The Trustees after much serious discussion voted the three per cent Rebate.

As the amount of the Rebate depends on the year's business, we cannot make promises. It is our hope that we can again reach the 10 per cent that we were able to pay in prosperous years. We certainly appreciate the attitude of the students who have taken the reduced Rebate with great good nature. There has been no grousing at all. All the Hathaway House members seem to be good sports.

Yours very sincerely,
Geraldine Gordon.

To the editors of the *Wellesley College News*:

With the greatest part of the crop just ripening, the harvest-labor problem of Hollis, N. H., will become especially acute in the next three weeks. Under the auspices of the Greater Boston Unitarian Ministry to Students, 25 college students have gone from Boston to Hollis on the past four week-ends, to contribute 1800 man-hours to the solution of August's relatively minor labor problem. But the farmers' major difficulties lie ahead of them. According to Rev. Irving R. Murray of the Ministry to Students, at least 120 college students must be found to put in another 1800 man-hours on the next three week-ends; and if this can be done, 330 tons of fruits and vegetables will have been harvested by workers on this project. Wellesley women who would like to participate in the week-end harvesting workcamp are asked to contact Jeanne Garceton, or to write to Mr. Murray at Hollis, N. H.

The usual program will prevail on the three remaining week-ends (Sept. 10-12, 17-19, 24-26.) Workers will take the 8:45 p.m. train from North Station, Boston, to Nashua, where they will be met and taken by truck to the historic 1734 House on Lake Silver, the second oldest home in Hollis—older, in fact, than the United States. After a preliminary "confab" around the punch-bowl, they will off to bed, for rising time is 6:30 a.m. with breakfast at 6:50. Work—mostly harvesting apples—will occupy them from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with an hour out for lunch. After a swim, a fried chicken dinner will be served. In the evening a discussion and a dance are scheduled. Sunday's program is essentially the same. Then leaving Hollis shortly after 9 p.m., the workers will return to North Station at 10:55.

Earnings average $3.00 per day; but there is no "pay-off" until October 1, so that workers have to stake themselves for the $1.94 round trip Boston to Nashua and return. There are no other charges. The costs of the project will simply be deducted from earnings before they are distributed; and if inclement weather should result in no earnings there will still be no charges.

Greater Boston Unitarian
Ministry to Students

On Campus

On The Air

"730 on your dial" is again the call to hours of refreshing entertainment. The Wellesley Broadcasting System is opening its third season with many exciting plans in the offing.

An all-round variety program will open next week's series, with a skit, music, and "News Around Campus." September 13, Dr. Paul Lehmann of the Biblical History Department will talk on "The Relationship of War and the Church" September 15, "So You're Going to Boston" will be on again September 17.

Other tentative plans include "Personal Lives" of the heads of organizations and "Bingo," a News around Campus talk by Miss Edna Heidbreder of the Psychology Department.

The head of Radio this year is Jean Mark '44, who is also in charge of announcers. Other Heads of Staff are: Technicians, Despina Malakos '45; Directors, Allaire Urban '45; Publicity, Catherine Marx '44; Music, Carolyn Moore '44; Script, Florence Field '44; and Drama, Naomi Bucholz '45. The Secretary is Marjorie Meyers.

A A DEMONSTRATION

Freshman A.A. enthusiasts, 200 strong, watched the Swimming Club's intricate formations at an A. A. Open House Saturday, September 4. With appropriate music, the members demonstrated group technique and diving at the Rec Building.

Carol Wheelock, President of A. A., introduced the Heads of Fall Sports to the freshmen. Frances Roche '44, Tennis Head, announced a singles tournament for the benefit of the Red Cross. The fee will be a dollar a person. A doubles inter-dormitory tournament is also planned.

Hockey practice will be held every day at 4:40, Ruth Strang '44 said. Marcia Morse '45, Head of Softball, urged everyone to come out for practice in order to break a time-honored tradition of the Faculty superiority in the Student-Faculty softball game.

Matches with M.I.T. are in prospect for golf adherents, announced Inez French '45. Elizabeth Chalmers '45, Head of Volley-Ball, Florence Marshall '44, Head of Crew, and Elizabeth Barker Vinal '44, Head of Modern Dance, also spoke. All Freshmen were urged to come out for voluntary sports, regardless of their skill.

A tour of the Rec Building and refreshments followed the Swimming Demonstration and talks.

Barn Door

"Where will the men come from for Barn's production of Lillian Hellman's Critics' Prize play, *Watch On The Rhine?*" ask inquisitive audiences-to-be. Barn has lured men from the Village Players, from Wellesley's faculty, and even from faraway Boston.

For those whose calendars are almost filled with engagements for weekends to come, there will be two evening performances of Barn's fall production. Jot down Friday or Saturday night, October 8 and 9, and watch for the ticket sale.

The cast will be announced in next week's *News*. New Barn committees will appear at the same time.

Domestic Difficulties Conquered As College Hall Opened In 1875

The following letter, written by a former faculty member, concerns the opening of college in 1875, when College Hall had just been completed. Besides presenting a vivid description of Wellesley in its youth, the account gives a new perspective to present day difficulties.

Wellesley, Mass.
Sept. 11, 1875

My dear Mrs. Lord:

. . . I want to tell you, first of all, what a real delight your letter was to me: coming to the college just before I did, it was the first thing to welcome me to my new home. I confess that I had just a tinge of homesickness that first night, as we drove up to this great gloomy building standing out against the sky, not a light to be seen anywhere, until at last a lantern appeared at the door: following the lantern I threaded my way between tables and chairs and stacks of mattresses and when I reached my room and found your dear letter on the table, it was like a flood of sunlight filling the whole room.

The next morning I offered my services in any department where they might be needed, and the matron set me to overcasting blankets. It seems, a thousand blankets had been given to the college by a Boston gentleman, and the Wellesley ladies (a few of them) had offered to overcast them. . . . After dinner Mr. Durant asked me to go to every room in the third and fourth floors and inspect mattresses . . . to see that every bed was supplied with one husk and one hair mattress, so I did that, made a note of deficiencies, then came down to the piles of mattresses on the first floor, helped take off the sacking, while six men carried them to the rooms designated on my paper. This sounds simple enough but it occupied the rest of the day.

. . . Tuesday I worked in my room all day preparing examination papers in Modern History. . . . Miss Howard, the president, had been ill for more than a week when I came, but she had asked the different teachers to prepare exam. papers, and on Monday she was able to come to the college (from Mr. Durant's house) but she was not strong enough to do much until Wednesday. That was the great day of the week. You can imagine what a scene of confusion the building presented when you remember that the workmen were still here in every part of it, gas men puting up fixtures, plumbers at work in the bath rooms, oilers still finishing up the wood work, furniture men hanging mirrors in the bureaus, while here and there on every floor you might see, hurrying, skurrying along, a teacher or a girl armed with a lamp, a slop pail or a wash bowl which she was rushing around to get settled in its proper place.

. . . At about 9 a.m. of Wednesday the girls began to come, and I think at least a thousand people came to the house that day. Nearly 300 girls came, and it seemed as if the father, mother, and all the uncles, aunts and cousins of every girl came with her. Very many people came, supposing there were to be public services of dedication; others came to see the building, and altogether, there was a perfect rush of people. My duty that day was to sit beside Miss Howard in the reception room, take the names of the girls as they presented themselves, and after Miss Howard had assigned their room, to make a note of them, and keep a list of names and rooms, to be sent to the baggage room, that the girls' trunks might be sent to their proper places. And such an array of trunks! Almost every girl brought two, and one poor thing had five. I wish I could give you a picture of that reception room. Miss H. and I sat by a table in the centre, while the newcomers with their parents and friends crowded around. Sometimes anxious mothers wanted a few private words with Miss H., and while she bent her head to listen, and I stopped writing, some gentleman would thrust his card into my hand saying, "Won't you please have my daughter attended to next; I want to go on the next train?" "Mine next, if you please, I want to take that train." "And I too." — "And I." were the responses from various quarters, until I had, often at one time, eight or ten on hand, all courteous and polite but all extremely anxious to have their turn come. Of course we had no time for dinner but sat there till the rush was over—about six p.m.

. . . I cannot help thinking it would have been better if the beginning of the college term could have been postponed to the first of Oct.—that every workman might have been out of the house, and every room in perfect order. But I can appreciate Mr. Durant's desire to keep his word and begin September 8th according to the circulars; and when the poor man has worked and is still working so hard, it seems ungracious to speak of mistakes. He is very much worn. I do wish that he could rest. Considering all the obstacles in the way—the unfinished building—the Herculean task of marshalling 300 raw girls into their proper places in the domestic department—the obvious disadvantage of starting the College without having a single Faculty meeting before the girls came—considering all these things, I think we are getting into shape remarkably well.

We have a strong corps of teachers. I have never before seen associated together so many fine women, and fine scholars too . . . Miss Hallowell . . . our Professor of Natural History . . . Miss Capen, the chemist . . . Miss Horton, Miss Storke and Miss Glazier . . . of the departmens of Greek, Latin and Mathematics respectively . . . Miss Cow, who . . . has Mental and Moral Science for her special work.

. . . The only male Professor in the establishment is the baker—and he is superb in his line . . . Our tables are abundantly supplied with the nicest food; there was of course a little trouble at first in calculating for so many, but Mr. and Mrs. Durant are very generous in all their ideas and provisions for the College. The office clerk is instructed to pay the teachers whenever they call for their money; which I consider a very thoughtful as well as a generous arrangement . . . This week some of us have been at work with Mr. Durant, making out a complete course of study for the College to be submitted to the trustees next month; it is to be published before long in the form of a circular; I will send you one.

. . . Mr. Hunnewell's grounds are open to us at all times. Sadie and Jenny will be glad to hear that the girls are allowed to walk on Sunday anywhere on our grounds. We have a very fine class of girls here —some beautiful ones, and many bright, clear minds.

. . . It is Sat. morning now: I was called off the other day to work on that course of study, and this is my first leisure since. But one of my friends is just going into the city and I will send this by her that it may start to you today. . . .

Your loving friend,
Mary A. Burnham.

Dr. Eric North To Speak On "Christianity Today" At Outdoor C.A. Vespers

Dr. Eric M. North will speak at 7:00 p. m., September 12, at a special vesper meeting sponsored by C. A. and Cosmopolitan Club. Dr. North is the father of Louise North, '45.

Stressing the international point of view, Dr. North will speak on the significance of Christianity in the world today. Dr. North is a member of the American Bible Society, noted for its work in making the Scriptures available to the world and now to the Armed Forces. The meeting will be held in the Greek Theatre.

Dance Group Tryouts Changed For This Year

Aspirants who try out for the Apprentice Dance Group this year will attend regular meetings for six weeks so that they will have an opportunity to see the activities of the organization.

The Dance Group plans to present an indoor exhibition at the end of the fall season. Fall dance classes and members of the Wellesley College Dance Group will participate.

COUNTRY FAIR
Benefit of Merchant Seamen
WELLESLEY HILLS
See Index Board
For Details

★ SILHOUETTES ★

Ruth Lester, President of Christian Association
by Mary Vogel '45

"Whimsical and proud of it" is how a close friend of Ruth's characterized her. Asked by a slightly uncertain reporter just what whimsical entailed her friend replied, "Oh you know, rear views of rabbits and elephants and things." "Why of course, we see exactly," we nodded, "and just what do whimsical people do in their spare time?" "Oh, that's an easy one. We play Categories." Categories, it seems, is a game, involving the mentol and imaginative processes, in which people are classed according to what type of animal, vegetable, or animal they would be if they were in that field of matter. Comprenez? It turned out that Ruthie would be a MacIntosh apple, licorice candy, a rambler rose, and a coffee-pot.

Interviewing Ruth in the C.A. office where she is as much at home this year as she is in Stone Hall, we got a good glimpse of C.A.'s inner workings. People delving into files, asking questions, stopping in for short chats, or waving gaily as they go by do not disrupt Ruth in the slightest. "Everyone welcome" seems to be her motto.

Ruth, who hails from Massillon, Ohio, and is majoring in English Literature, admitted quite candidly that C.A. wasn't her primary interest during her Freshman year. Her interest grew through knowing active members and in becoming acquainted with C.A.'s traditions on campus so that now as President of Christian Organization she devotes all her extra-curricular time to it. Ruth hopes that this year more than ever C.A. will become more important in everyone's life on campus and that the organization will mean active service in fields where helpers are much needed, rather than just an isolated group of board members and files. Ruth well knows the desperate shortage of social service workers for she did volunteer work in a Federal Housing Project this summer, giving children of defense workers lessons in Bible, sewing, and dancing. This is also the field in which she has chosen to specialize after college.

Another of Ruth's friends gave some additional sidelights into her personality. She's terrifically absent-minded and always forgets things. Typical of this quirk was an excursion to the Libe sans pen, and a return trip for said pen. Finding and becoming absorbed by her mail, she arrived at the Libe again sans pen. She also eats oranges every night before going to bed, likes picking out "cute little things" from all the books which she reads for her Lit. courses, and is a camera fan—especially for colored pictures. "I'm also horribly sentimental," volunteered Ruthie, returning from exile where she had been sent while we got down to brass tacks, "and keep just millions of scrap books."

Admitting that the man represented by the Beta pin she wears is now a lieutenant stationed at Fort Custer, Ruth stated loyally that she is a member of the WUV's which organization stands for Women Under Vows "and we wuv our men," she added—whimsically.

Reserved for FILENE'S

COLONIAL
NATICK
Matinees at 1:45 Eves. at 8:00
Sundays Continuous 3 - 11

Thurs. - Fri. - Sat. Sept. 9-10-11
Betty Grable - Cesar Romero
"CONEY ISLAND"
Jimmy Lydon - Charles Smith
"HENRY ALDRICH SWINGS IT"

Sun. - Mon. - Tues. Sept. 12-13-14
Virginia Weidler - Edward Arnold
"YOUNGEST PROFESSION"
Pierre Aumont - Susan Peters
"ASSIGNMENT IN BRITTANY"

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FRAMINGHAM
Sun. continuous 1.30 - 11
Mat. 2 - Eve. 6.30 - Last show 8

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12 - 18
Sun. thru Wed.
Abbott and Costello
— in —
"HIT THE ICE"
— also —
George Sanders - Marguerite Chapman
— in —
"APPOINTMENT TO BERLIN"

Thurs. - Fri. - Sat.
Roddy McDonald - Preston Foster
— in —
"MY FRIEND FLICKA"
— also —
Ann Miller - John Hubbard
— in —
"WHAT'S BUZZIN' COUSIN"

Community Playhouse
WELLESLEY HILLS Wel. 0017
Mats. at 2.15 Eves. at 7.15
Sun. Cont. at 5

ENTIRE WEEK
Starting Thursday, Sept. 9
THE BIGGEST THING TO HIT THE SCREEN!
SOL LESSER presents
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PLUS 6 FAMOUS BANDS!
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BENNY GOODMAN • XAVIER CUGAT • GUY LOMBARDO

Also—THE MARCH OF TIME
For This Engagement Only
EVENINGS — All Seats 55c

Hello, Everybody:

So, now, if you are settled snugly down in your double-decker rooms and have unpacked enough so that you can see your way from the bureau to the window, it's time for a bit of relaxation. The Vil stores, who missed us muchly during vacation, are waiting for familiar faces to appear again. One and all they extend a hearty welcome to the Freshmen as well as the Upperclassmen to come in and look around.

FREE COKES!

Believe it or not, just to prove that they really are glad to see us again, HILL AND DALE has established a "coke bar" which is open to everyone—even under twenty-one. No strings attached, just walk in and ask for a coke. It works, I know, because I tried it. But cokes aren't the only attraction. The well-known and liked dickies, beautiful soft sweaters, and yummy plaid skirts are as much in evidence as ever. You can't miss this golden opportunity. Make HILL AND DALE your first stop.

NEW HAT?

In your numerous trips to the Vil have you ever stopped at RENEES'? It's the most satisfactory hat shop you have ever seen. Anything you want is waiting for you, and if you don't know what you want, Mr. Carter will help you decide. But the best part of all is that they can make any hat you can dream up. Just take the material in and give them a rough idea of your pet brain storm. A new hat for your suit will give you the nifty feeling of having a whole new outfit.

WELCOME BACK

GROSS-STRAUSS, after serving the whims and fancies of Wellesley girls for the last fifteen years, still extends a hearty welcome to all the new and old girls to drop in and see what's new. Sweaters, skirts, suits, coats, and dresses are among the many things which are purchased especially to suit the needs and desires of the college gals. So don't come back to the dorm until you have had a glimpse of some of your future date dresses.

WANT A RIDE?

All of the old girls know the number because it has been drilled into them through the years, but —for you Freshmen—it is Wel. 1600. In case you are wondering "what is?" LE BLANC TAXI SERVICE is the company you are calling. Every smart Wellesley girl knows that LE BLANC SERVICE is the best to be found. And please try to remember to call a half hour early so that arrangements can be made for picking up several girls at once.

More next week,
PRIL.

Stage

Jed Harris presents *"Dark Eyes,"* a farce comedy by Elena Miramova in collaboration with Eugenie Leontovich; staged by Mr. Harris with settings by Stewart Chaney.

If you want to see the zaniest comedy in a month of Sundays, if you want to see the latest play showing what charming people our allies, the Russians, are, then don't miss "Dark Eyes" which is now occupying the stage of the Plymouth Theatre after a successful Broadway interlude of six months.

The story? Frankly it is too ephemeral to transpose into solid print. It's about three penniless but fascinating Russian women who arrive unexpectedly to spend the weekend with the American family of the fiancee of one of their former suitors. And that is stating it all simply. They have a play to sell, they make love to all the men, they drink poison and stretch out to die, and amazingly after all that, the play ends happily.

The three Russian women are played beautifully by Tamara Geva, Elena Miramova, and Ludmilla Toretzka. When they cavort enchantingly and sing their Russian songs, the play is at its best. Virginia Tomas and Geza Korwin are adequate as the romantic twosome, but the rest of the cast is not outstanding. Frank Latimore is ill at ease as the puerile Larry, and Mitchell Harris as the harassed father of the family is only fair. The settings by Stewart Chaney are good.

"Dark Eyes" was written by Elena Miramova in collaboration with Eugenie Leontovich, and Miss Miramova is evidently a much better actress than a plot technician. Although there are many defects in "Dark Eyes" due to its farcical tendencies, we feel sure that many would enjoy this Russian concoction of the entertainment world.

JEB '44.

Upperclassmen Serenade '47 at First Stepsinging

Freshmen were introduced to another Wellesley custom, when the first step-singing of the year was held Tuesday, Sept. 7, '44, '45, and '46 serenaded the Freshmen with their class songs as they filed through the arch near Green Hall and took their places on the Chapel steps, holding colorful Japanese lanterns.

Dr. Howard Robbins Talks On Labor

Speaking in Houghton Memorial Chapel Sunday, "Labor Sunday," Dr. Howard C. Robbins of the General Theological Seminary, New York City discussed the religious and national significance of Labor Day, one of America's six great national holidays.

Moral and ethical as well as patriotic reasons for labor's unstinting participation in the war effort on the home front were indicated by Dr. Robbins, who suggested the value to the nation of remarking the true significance of this Labor Day.

Emphasis on the national aspect of such holidays can be justified from a religious perspective as well, the speaker declared, pointing out that Jesus showed himself familiar with all the lore of his people.

Screen

Outstanding music and photography combine with performances of uniform excellence by two of the cinema's best players to make *The Constant Nymph* a thoroughly delightful escapist film.

The chief objection to this latest version of the Margaret Kenneely novel lies in the fact that there is too much of it. There are too many Sangers running unexplained in and out of their Swiss chalet. There are too many English cousins at Lewis Dodd's London home. The love of Fritz for Toni is never developed. Kate and Linda Sanger disappear too abruptly. Dame May Whitty plays a character whose introduction into the story has no reason whatever except that she is a welcome addition to any film.

On the credit side is one of the most natural and understanding treatments of the adolescent girl's devotion to an older man to come our way in many years. There are also the shining charm of Joan Fontaine's precocious Tessa and Charles Boyer's ability to make the artistic temperment of the Sangers and Lewis Dodd seem more logical than all the hard common sense of sophisticated Florence and her father.

Charles Colburn is properly blustering as the father and Alexis Smith proves herself to be a far better actress than the pin-up pictures in *Life* would lead one to believe, although there is a hint of imitation of Bette Davis in many of her gestures and speeches. Peter Lorre and Brenda Joyce do what they can with confused and minor roles, but they are continually pushed out of the way, just as their characterizations are about to emerge, in order to make room for Hollywood's favorite feature, Romance. Joyce Reynolds makes much of her portrayal of the loyal little sister Paula. Her acting of the scene when Tessa learns of Lewis Dodd's approaching marriage are as good as anything in this generally excellent film. She should be something to watch.

Warning: When you go to see this one, better take *two* handkerchiefs.

M.E.E. '44.

College Notes

Engaged

Carolyn Gloria Roehl '44 to Ensign Matthew Rhodes Blish Jr., U.S.C.G.R., Hamilton College ex-'42.

Rae Wheat '44, to Aviation Cadet Harlow H. White, U.S.A.A.F., M.I.T. ex-'44.

Married

Margaret Davidson ex-'44 to Lt. Ramer B. Holtan, U.S.A.

Estella D'Ancona Levi ex-'44 to Lt. Robert Philip Kirchheimer, U.S.A.

Jean Keppy Winslow, ex-'45 to Capt. Arthur F. Spor, U.S.A.A.F.

Dorcas D. Davis, ex-'45 to Pvt. M. E. Park, U.S.A.

Patricia Alleyne Wiseman ex-'45 to Lt. Leonard Taylor, U.S.A.

Calendar

Sunday, September 12: *11 a.m., Memorial Chapel. Preacher, Lt. C. Leslie Glenn, Chaplain, United States Naval Reserve. *7 p.m., Hay Outdoor Theatre. Christian Association and Cosmopolitan Club Vespers. Speaker, Dr. Eric M. North.

Monday, September 13: *8:15 a.m., Chapel. Leader, Miss George.

Tuesday, September 14: *8:15 a.m., Chapel. Leader, Miss Curtiss. *7:15 p.m., Chapel Steps. Step Singing.

Wednesday, September 15: *8:15 a.m., Chapel. Leader, Miss Goodfellow. 4:40 p.m., Pendleton Hall. Lecture: "Biological Aspects of Marriage," by Dr. James C. Janney. Open to seniors and graduate students. (Marriage Lecture Committee.)

Thursday, September 16: *7 am., Little Chapel. Communion Service to which all members of the college are invited every week at this hour. *8:15 a.m., Chapel. Leader, Constance Smith '44.

Friday, September 17: *8:15 a.m., Chapel. Leader, Miss Williams. *7:15 p.m., Chapel Steps. Step Singing.

Sacred Flower Grows in Mud At Wellesley

"Look at those long-necked waterlilies!" people down by the meadow pond have been exclaiming. Actually, those botanical specimens are lotus blossoms (*Nelumbium nucifera*), the sacred flower of Buddhism transplanted to Wellesley mud.

The Botany Department is responsible for the lovely display of pink blossoms with their huge round leaves flapping in the breeze. After many unsuccessful sowings the plants finally were established here at Wellesley about 1935. Since then they have been thriving—in spite of injurious attacks by muskrats, which are fond of the fleshy underground stems.

In the old days, when college opened late in September, the lotus usually had nothing more exciting to offer than its fluted seed pods. Now, however, the display is in its full glory.

Besides being associated with Buddhist rites, the lotus flower is a common motif in Oriental art. It is also used as an article of food; both the underground stems and the nutlike seeds are eaten by Chinese and Japanese people. For the present, anyway, its chief use at Wellesley remains an aesthetic one: to delight the passers-by.

Alumnae Notes

Engaged

Marjorie Wood '42 to David Craig Scott, U.S.A.

A.A. Notes

September 13 is the date, 4:40 the hour when voluntary crew will begin. Miss House, instructor in Physical Education, is in charge of crew this year. Florence Marshall '44, head of crew, says that plans for a full season are underway and hopes that everyone will come out and row.

A.K.X.

(Continued from Page 1)

solemnly at her muteness, and led her away—to the pledge dinner.

After the fire, when the college was rebuilt on a unified architectural plan, the present AKX house was built on Tupelo, leaving only a row of pines on the hill by Dower. AKX is justifiably proud of its house, especially of the Greek patio. But the Greek patio will shortly acquire a new outlook on life with the combination of becoming the entrance to the "Well," and with the society turning American.

Perry

● A Munger Sophomore did it! She sent off the usual daily letter to her man, and received this reply by return mail. " . . . I settled down to read your letter, and suddenly began laughing so hard the biology prof had to stop his lecture. You see, your letter began: Dear Mother—"

P.S. And the Munger Sophomore had distracted visions of the other letter at home that night.

* * *

● We trust that it was a Freshman who, after studying and staring at the marvels of the heavens at the observatory last week, after one particularly long concentration, remarked, "Just like the planetarium."

* * *

● With two minutes to go before the 8:40 class it was really a fervant Freshie who dashed along the road with hands clasped, praying earnestly, "Please, dear God, get me in Founders and not in Green."

* * *

● The Co-op system for efficiency, plus! At Beebe a telephone call came for Betty Golden '46. The girl on bells diligently set off in search, and after a frantic few minutes, rushed back and told the telephone that Betty was out and wouldn't be call at such and such a time. She hung up as the girl in the chair beside her looked up from a book, "Betty whom? Why, that's me!"

* * *

● No telling how a cap and gown will affect a new Senior. One member of '44 put her cap on the first morning, watched the tassel bouncing about over her forehead and squealed "Whee! I feel just like Veronica Lake!"

CORRECTIONS

In last week's *News*, it was stated that Lillian Hellman, author of *Watch on the Rhine*, was a member of Wellesley's class of '41. She wasn't.

In the same article, it was stated that Miss Hellman's play won the Pulitzer Prize. This is also erroneous; the play won the Critic's Award for 1940-41.

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